Nomination of Director on the Management of the Peerless and General Finance and Investment Company

841. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to nominate a Director on the Management of the Peerless and General Finance and Investment Company Limited in terms of section 408 of the Companies Act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Company Law Board have decided to appoint four directors on the Board of Directors of M/s. Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited under section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956 for a period of three years.

Schemes to control the prices of essential drugs

842. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new schemes have been formulated to control the prices of essential drugs and remove the scarcity of drugs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are being taken to increase the production of drugs in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Necessary mechanism has been provided in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 to control the prices of essential drugs. The Order was notified in the Gazette on 25th August, 1987 and copies thereof were laid on the Table of the House on 27th August, 1987. Measures for ensuring abundant availability of drugs are contained in "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Survey for Coal in Andhra Pradesh

843. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of lndia conducted a survey for coal in the Mulug Coal belt between Maneru river and Parsa in the Godavari Coal field in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Geological Survey of India (GSI) is engaged in regional exploration for coal in the Mulug coal belt of Andhra Pradesh. Exploration for coal has been completed in Bhopalpalli and Satrajpalli sectors during GSI field season 1985-86. Investigation is being carried out in Chelvai-Pasra, Lakshmidevipet sector. A total reserve of 1588. 55 million tonnes of coal of all categories has been estimated.

Import Export of Cement

1844. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Cement imported so far during 1987;

(b) whether Government propose to export cement; and

(c) if so, the quantum of cement likely to be exported during this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) In view of the easy availability of cement, no import has been authorised since the financial year 1986-87, except for certain special varieties of cement to meet specific demands from particular and users.